[23rd February 1955

Payyanur-Annur-Vellur road

* 857 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) the present stage of the construction of the Payyanur-Annur-Vellur road in Payyanur Firka, North Malabar; and

(*b*) when the construction of the road will be completed?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) About three-fourths of the work has been completed and further work relating to land acquisition is in progress.

" (*b*) The work is expected to be completed before 30th June 1955."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, for the last two years it has been said by the Government and officers that they want to acquire some lands in order to complete the road, but acquisition proceedings have not taken place with the result even the money spent for constructing a portion of the road becomes a waste as that portion is getting damaged. Will the Government take immediate action in the matter? "

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" Yes, Sir. The Government are already taking drastic action regarding that road."

Coir industry

* 858 *Q.*—SRI P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have taken any steps to encourage and help the Coir Industry in the West Coast; and

(*b*) if so, what they are?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) Steps have been taken by the Government to encourage and help the Coir Industry on the West Coast on the following lines :—

(i) Running of Coir training school at Beypore in Malabar district;

(ii) A demonstration party in the South Kanara district moving from village to village explaining to the people up-to-date methods for dealing with different aspects of the industry;

(iii) Demonstration in the Amindivi and Laccadive groups of islands popularising the spinning of hard twist coir yarn by the use of Charkas; and

(iv) Constitution of a Coir Advisory Board to advise Government on the measures necessary for the development of the coir industry and expansion of the coir trade in this State. A scheme drawn up by this board for the Malabar district is under examination by the Director of Industries and Commerce and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies."